

THE MCGILL DAILY

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Dry humping the banjo since 1911

MONDAY, JANUARY 24, 1994

Sony "gift" to music faculty might mean trade-off in academic autonomy

Pennies from heaven: McGill selling out to corporate cash

BY KRISTIN ANDREWS

McGill's music department has traded partial control of its curriculum in return for equipment from a major multinational corporation.

McGill University struck a deal with Sony Classical Productions that guaranteed Sony representation on the curriculum committee of the Faculty of Music. In exchange, McGill got \$250 000 worth of high-end audio equipment on indefinite loan and a guarantee that two graduates would be hired each year as interns by the corporation.

Calling the agreement an unprecedented violation of academic freedom, Senate voted last Wednesday to condemn any deal which grants a profit-making corporation a say in the school curriculum. While the agreement with Sony has been in effect since June, 1992, the terms were a secret to most senators until last week.

It is unclear how the motion passed at Senate will affect the agreement.

Sam Noumoff, senator and professor of political science, said that the Faculty of Music may be able to get around the senate's decision against corporate votes on curriculum committees.

Instead of including a Sony representative *per se* on the curriculum committee, the Faculty of Music has hired an employee of Sony as an adjunct professor in the department. Christian Constantinov, the vice president of audio operations for Sony Classical Productions, Inc. in New York City, now teaches for three days a month in the graduate faculty of music at McGill.

As an adjunct professor who also holds another job, Constantinov is not unique in the university. But even adjunct professors who work outside the university are hired as individuals, and not as representatives of corporations.

As a representative of Sony, however, Constantinov negotiated an agreement that said the university would "appoint a designated member of Sony to be a voting member of the the University's... committee...for creating and/or approving the curriculum of the University regarding music and sound recording."

Michael Temelini, post-graduate representative to the Board of Governors, said he finds the agreement "completely shocking."

"Whether Constantinov is emi-

nently qualified or not is not the issue," Temelini said. "The fact is that they hired this guy totally without regard for regular hiring procedure."

"What you're talking about here is a violation of a basic principle in the relationship between the business and the university community," said Temelini.

Noumoff agreed that this agreement signals a change in the relationship between business and public schools.

"Increasingly, companies and private foundations are now insisting upon a direct role in the management of monies that they make available," said Noumoff.

Musicians love the new toys

While Sony may want to turn the Music Faculty on to its high-tech equipment, that's exactly what the department needs as well.

Raymond Luk, a second-year music student at McGill said that most students in the department know about the new equipment from Sony. "The general consensus

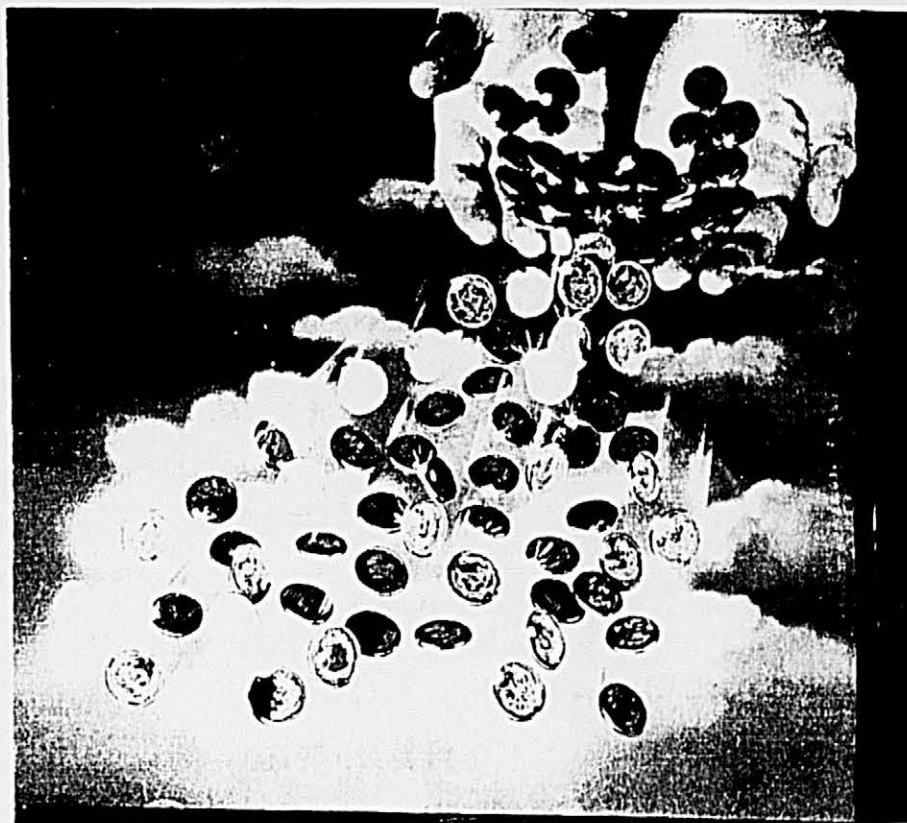
is that it's a really good thing," he said.

"This is some very very special equipment. There are only a few of these machines in the world," said Professor Bruce Pennycook about the Sony sound recording technology. Pennycook teaches computer applications in music at McGill.

Having the Sony equipment at McGill has enabled the music department's special graduate program in sound recording to come into the '90s, said John Grew, Dean of Music.

"It's a huge amount of money," Grew said of the Sony contribution. "My capital equipment budget for the entire Faculty of Music is half of that."

Private funding for the program is not at all unusual, Grew said. Over 75 per cent of the Faculty's



money comes from sources outside the university.

But the question in this case is not the source of the funding, but what the corporation gets in return, said Noumoff.

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See "McGill begging for corporate buy-out"**

Internet users fear censorship

Computing centre proposes removing "irrelevant" newsgroups

BY DAMION STODOLA

Internet users got a scare last week when a McGill Computing Centre administrator wrote that new newsgroups wanting to get on the Internet would be screened, and that existing newsgroups deemed irrelevant faced immediate disconnection.

But following student and academic outrage, Ronald-Robert Hall, a head administrator at the McGill Computing Centre, apologized for his hasty and strident policy decision.

In a posting dated January 19, Hall unilaterally decided to relieve pressure on the newsgroups by censoring various groups he deemed irrelevant. But since then he has apologized for his "poor vocabulary."

"These [examples in his posting] were starting points and I regret some poor choices and vocabulary used earlier on," said Hall.

"The total number of news

groups has grown to an annoying level for many end-users of the system," wrote Hall. "Some human intervention is necessary to winnow the total number groups down to some reasonable level."

Hall said he was trying to respond to many requests sent to him from users of the newsgroups.

In the original posting, Hall wrote that "geographically irrelevant" and "joke" news-groups should be pulled off. Yet Hall was silent on the fact that thousands of McGill students come from "geographically irrelevant" areas.

"I wasn't clear on what I was trying to convey," said Hall. "I have not targeted any one group or hierarchy of groups. My intentions have always been to clean up the news system."

Academic and user pressure opens debate

Academics as well as students are condemning Hall's original un-

derhanded tactics.

Chair of the Biomedical Engineering Department, Robert Kearney, said Hall's solutions did not strike a balance.

"Blocking the creation of newsgroups a priori seems to be extremely dangerous," said Kearney. "[Hall's plan] has the advantage of being easy to administer but has the disadvantage of not involving any consultation with the users."

In his posting, Hall was accused of limiting debate by suggesting that "any further questions should be directed to me personally in order to cut down on the amount of traffic in this group."

But Hall maintains he wrote that statement in order to deal with the problem more directly. "I decided I could do a better job of handling all the requests," said Hall. He said he saved all the responses which he will post as people desire.

Hall's talk about removing newsgroups before coming up with

a procedure for review met with great protest from users. Students and academics did not believe debate of the issue on the newsgroup created unnecessary traffic in the group.

According to a memo he sent to all other administrators, Hall had originally scheduled the auditing of newsgroups to take place on the 24th of January.

This date was moved back to February 6, 1994. But due to the large protest from users, Hall has turned his dictate into a proposal, allowing for debate he believes will lead to a consensus and then action on how to deal with the cramped resources of the news-groups' hardware.

See page 3 for more stories on Internet censorship.

EVENTS

The Lesbian and Gay Employees of McGill (LAGEM) meets at 19h30 tonight at Thomson hall. All welcome.

The School of Community and Public Affairs and The School of Graduate Studies presents Dr. Mihailo Crnobrnja who will speak on "The Pain and Prospects of Transition in Eastern Europe" on Tuesday January 25 at 20h at Concordia

University, Room S-H 767

The Women's "Y" International Co-operation committee invites you to a workshop on *North South Poverty* on Tuesday Jan 25 from 14h — 16h at 1355 René Levesque Blvd. West Call 866-9941, ext. 314 for info.

The St. Thomas More Society of McGill presents Human Rights ac-

tivist Rev. Ernest Schibli speaking on "Dealing with the Human Dimension of Third World Debt" in the Moot Court at the McGill Faculty of Law, 3644 Peel on Wed. Jan 26 at 12h30. A discussion will follow. Free admission. All welcome.

International Socialists meeting. *Defend the Zapatistas*, the peasant revolt and worker struggles in Mexico, the US and Canada. Rm 771, Hall Building, Concordia University. Wednesday Jan 26, 19h30.

The McGill Students' Volunteer Bureau and the Volunteer Bureau of Montreal will be holding their second bi-annual symposium from 11h30 to 13h30 on Wednesday Jan 26 in the Shatner ballroom. We will be informing and recruiting students. Please come by! For more info call 398-6819.

Savoy Society Musical Review on Saturday Jan 29 in the Shatner Bldg, 20h.

The Faculty of Arts presents Dr. Mary Simon who will speak on "A New Relationship With Aboriginal People", Monday Jan 31 at 18h in Leacock 232.

Breaking Free...Celebrating our Natural Sizes! In an informal, small group setting, we plan to explore a variety of issues related to body image. Tuesdays 14h-16h beginning Feb 8 at the downtown YMCA. For more info call 694-6879/ 487-4767

The Art History Students Association is looking for artists to participate in the 4th Annual Art Exhibit to be held on February 3rd, 4th, 7th and 8th. For more info pick up a package in the Art History Department W28 or call 284-4296/ 488-1121.

Are you looking for something EXCITING to do over Study Break?? The Savoy Society needs people to help build sets for their upcoming production of *The Gondoliers* — why miss this excellent opportunity to play with power tools? Spend as much time as you like helping out — no experience necessary! Call 288-1880 or 934-4584.

McGill begging for corporate buy-out

Continued from page 1

"Let Sony or anybody else make a donation to the music school," Noumoff said. When you give them a position on the faculty in exchange, however, "you inevitably bend academic decisions to conform to the donor's will," he said.

So what's in it for Sony?

"Sony in no way has any control over our curriculum," said Grew. "It's hard to say what Sony gets in return."

Noumoff said that what Sony gets is essentially a cheap training camp for employees. Considering the high cost of teachers' salaries and facilities at McGill, even very pricey audio equipment seems like an incidental expense in comparison.

"The public purse is paying for their training," Noumoff said.

Grew admits that "Sony has a problem finding well-trained people that they can use."

While Grew touts the employment opportunities for graduates of the program, Noumoff sees the guarantee that Sony will hire two grads as one of the more problematic parts of the agreement.

The two graduates which Sony hired as interns last year have since been given permanent jobs at the company.

Since Sony has input at the teach-

ing level in the graduate program in sound recording, they can ensure that McGill grads are well-trained in the types of skills Sony doesn't want to have to pay to teach for themselves, Noumoff said.

So 'hush hush'

While Sony's agreement to loan high-tech equipment to McGill hit the press with a fanfare two summers ago, last week's Senate meeting was the first time the reciprocal agreement to appoint a Sony rep to a curriculum committee was discussed publicly.

The apparent secrecy of the deal has raised some eyebrows.

"There are some serious deals that have been made here," said Temelini. "If this sets a precedent, then it absolutely should have gone to the Board or to the Senate."

McGill Secretary General David Bourke said that he would normally go to the Board of Governors for approval of a deal between a department and a private company, but in this case "there was no money changing hands so it was unnecessary."

Temelini said he wonders how many other similar agreements the university has signed independent of the Board of Governors or Senate.

"That's a good question," Noumoff said.

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Volunteer Symposium!!

The McGill Volunteer Bureau and the Volunteer Bureau of Montreal are hosting their second biannual symposium on **Wednesday, Jan. 26, from 11:30 to 1:30 in the ballroom of the Shatner Building.**

Various organizations will be present including Big Brother/Sister, Le Bon Dieu Dans La Rue, Reading Council for Literacy, Hospitals, Community Care, Arts and Cultural Groups

**Wednesday, Jan. 26, 11:30 - 1:30
SHATNER BALLROOM**

SAFE SEX WITH DANGEROUS MINDS: JOIN THE DAILY

FOR YOUR SAFETY

The Walk Safe Network (WSN) and the Sexual Assault Centre of McGill's Students Society (SACOM) feel that for this column to be effective and informative, it is important that we list the necessary details enabling the publication of any reported incidents:

- A detailed physical description of the assailant including hair, eye, and skin colour, approximate height, weight and build, and any distinguishing feature.
- A detailed description of the assailant's clothing at the time of the incident.
- The language spoken including any distinguishable accent.
- The exact date, time and location of the incident.

The goal of this column is to create social awareness and to provide a space where people can voice incidents. We welcome any comments, suggestions, or concerns.

**WSN 398-2498
SACOM 398-2700**

StudSoc publishes inaccurate budget figures

Tight year for finances as clubs forced to trim down operations

BY DAVE LEY

Amidst a financial crunch brought on by years of bad fiscal planning, Students' Society is having problems presenting its financial state, let alone solving its problems.

At a council meeting on January 13, a student pointed out that the budget published in the *SSMU journal* (Students' Society's "report to shareholders") grossly misrepresented the financial state of the society.

"It concerns me when this amount of McGill's students' money was spent on a report to shareholders that distorts [Students' Society's] true financial picture," said Howard Markowitz, a management student who brought the complaint up at the meeting.

Markowitz pointed out that the figures in the *SSMU journal* indicated that Students' Society had revenues of around \$1.8 million and expenses of around \$1.1 million, implying that the society would end this year with \$700,000 in profit. According to documents distributed at council, the society has revenues of approximately \$2.3 million and is projected to end this year with a balanced budget and no profit.

Paul Johnson, vp finance for Students' Society, admitted that mistakes had been made.

"I wasn't aware of [any errors] before the *SSMU journal* was put out," said Johnson. "We will be trying to correct the problem, by putting an ad in the *Tribune* at least."

According to Cornell Wright, vp internal, the *SSMU journal* cost \$9,000 to produce and distribute.

Johnson said that the numbers were inaccurate because the wrong set of numbers were used to show both the income and expenses of Students' Society. The figures for income numbers showed the gross revenue (revenue before expenses) while the numbers for expenses were net (expenses minus any revenue made by those activities).

The income statements also did not include \$400,000 gross revenue generated from Sadies, but only its net revenue (income minus expenditure).

According to its constitution, Students' Society must publish its audited financial statements by November 15. However, said Johnson, "this has never been done in the past."

He added that many of the problems resulted in confusion when the society switched from the uni-



DAILY PHOTO BY JEFF CORMIER

Students' Society vp finance, Paul Johnson

versity's accounting system to its own.

"You can't budget for one year unless you know where you are coming from," said Johnson. "We

weren't able to get financial statements from last year until very late. When we switched over from McGill's accounting system to our own—it created a lot of problems."

Markowitz was unsympathetic.

"The point is however, that regardless of the cause behind [the errors in the published budget information], the result is the same: The credibility of over 15,000 McGill students, to whom the budget was delivered to, lies one step lower than before," he said.

Clubs frustrated over new accounting system

Johnson said that many clubs were frustrated with the new accounting system, but that most of the confusion would be cleared up next year.

"This has been a transition year," said Johnson. "Those wrongs have been righted, next year will be better."

Farah Nazarali, clubs representative to council, said that many clubs were having a difficult time adjusting to the new accounting system.

"The problem is that a lot of energy is spent doing administrative stuff now," said Nazarali. "With a lot of clubs, people who are in charge of finance—who never had much responsibility before—find a lot of hassle administrative stuff, and it's a lot more complicated."

Censorship: It's ok to read about Homolka on computer, lawyers say

BY PAT MICELLI

TORONTO (CUP)—Students reading details of the Karla Homolka murder trial on a computer network are not violating the publication ban, says noted criminal lawyer Edward Greenspan.

Calling up the newsgroup files on the Internet (an international computer network) may defeat the purpose of the ban but not the ban itself, Greenspan said in an interview this week.

"I don't see anything wrong with individual members of the public defeating the spirit of the ban," he said.

The confusion arises because people think there is a ban on the details of the trial, but there is only a ban on publishing that information, said Greenspan.

Homolka was tried for manslaughter July 5, 1993 for the deaths of two young girls. She was sentenced by Justice Francis Kovacs to twelve years in jail.

Kovacs' ban prevents Canadian media from publishing details of the trial until Homolka's husband, Paul Teale (formerly Bernardo), is tried on related charges.

University of Toronto student paper *The Varsity* grabbed media attention recently after printing a step-by-step guide showing students how to access Homolka newsgroups censored by the university.

Although the media flurry was ignited by a Jan. 17 *Globe* and *Mail* article quoting Greenspan as saying

the Varsity had "clearly broken the spirit of Judge Kovacs' publication ban," the lawyer confirmed in a recent interview that the paper technically did not violate it.

"Although [the Varsity guide] may be viewed as inciting people to go and obtain the information... the crime is publishing, not making the information available."

Since the media coverage, students have given the guide much more attention. "People were going through the recycling bin to find old copies," said the guide's author, Sam Lee. "After it was on [local radio stations] there were some students in front of the computer terminals at [the library] with *Varsities* wide open beside them."

But Erin O'Brien, fourth-year U of T student and a critic of the Varsity article said even if charges are unlikely to be laid, there are still ethical and legal reasons why students should not try to access the information.

O'Brien argued that one of the reasons for the ban is to ensure that an unprejudiced jury can be assembled for the trial of Homolka's husband.

"There is a very direct relationship between breaking the ban individually or collectively, and what may or may not happen with the Paul Bernardo case," said O'Brien in an interview this week.

Greenspan confirmed there is a chance Ontario would not be able to assemble a jury since this is "the most high-profile case in the his-

tory of Canada." In such a situation charges would be stayed and he would go free.

But others argue that a publication ban simply cannot achieve its goal of keeping information about the trial from the public.

"The [guide] was supposed to show how easy it is to get information on Internet even in a case where the information is so tightly censored," said *Varsity* editor Simona Chiose.

Many universities, including McGill, Western, Queen's, Carleton, and Waterloo, have taken the Homolka newsgroup files off their system.

In a memo explaining why he counseled McGill to shut down Homolka user groups, legal advisor Raynald Mercille said although a university is not publishing the information by having it available on a computer network, the network distributes newsfiles to other locations

in Canada, and that could be seen as publication.

But Toronto criminal lawyer Paul Copeland said he doesn't think universities have anything to worry about.

"There are two issues here—whether it technically violates the ban, and whether the Attorney General's office has any energy whatsoever to prosecute it. I don't think they will... It's a very passive form of publication," said Copeland.

Shadow-boxing with vp Tavenas

Censorship on the USENET

BY MAX FRANCISCO

Within the span of thirty minutes the delicate issue of censorship at McGill was resolved at a Senate meeting last Wednesday.

Science Undergraduate Senator Arnold Kwok asked Vice Principal of Planning and Resources François Tavenas if "information that is currently allowed in printed or audio-visual media in the McGill Libraries or elsewhere on campus will also be allowed in electronic media in the McGill Computing Facilities."

The question arose because a Washington Post article on the Teale-Homolka trial and its subsequent publication ban in Canada is currently available in McGill libraries. The Usenet newsgroup called 'alt.fan.karla-homolka' (a.f.k-h) which distributes information on the Teale-Homolka trial in southern Ontario is, however, banned from McGill.

Tavenas was not available for the meeting since he was in Québec city, but he had left a response to be read out in Senate.

"Yes, as long as the information is not distributed by McGill to third parties."

Raynald Mercille, McGill's legal advisor, stated that having the file on the controversial newsgroup in the libraries simply constitutes possession, while hav-

ing the file on the Usenet is considered publication.

The a.f.k-h newsgroup had been accessible from McGill for months without any incidents, until November 3, 1993. On that day, Tavenas received e-mail from Raymond Benoit of Environment Canada, which stated: "We just found out that there is a news discussion group called a.f.k-h related to the court case of the same name and for which we believe there is a Canada wide publication ban."

On the same day, Alan Greenberg, Director of the McGill Computing Centre, removed the newsgroup from the McGill system. Senator Kwok questioned Tavenas' hasty decision at a December 1st Senate meeting.

Principal Johnson responded by saying, "I personally authorized [the removal of a.f.k-h]". He added that Tavenas had pursued legal counsel, which is puzzling since since Tavenas did not consult the McGill legal advisor until a full week later.

According to Mercille, McGill's Usenet "redistributes 'newsgroups' throughout Québec to other networks."

However, a.f.k-h is still accessible on many local BBSs (electronic Bulletin Board Systems). Also, a new newsgroup titled alt.pub-ban.karla has appeared, and it discusses very similar subjects as those discussed in a.f.k-h. It has not yet been removed from the McGill system.

COMMENT

The private sector and Students' Society: A love story

Last week, Students' Society announced it would be joining a number of university student councils on the newly-formed Canadian Campus Business Consortium (CCBC). The idea, according to Dalhousie Student Council President Jefferson Rappell, was not political but entirely business-oriented.

Students should question this argument, however, particularly given the amount of right-wing backlash against student-oriented organizations like the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) over the past few years.

Three years ago, at Queen's University, an intense battle took place over the school's membership in the Ontario Federation of Students (OFS). Led by the Progressive Conservative contingent at Queen's, with its private financial support, the movement to end the university's longstanding membership in the OFS was well-organized and successful.

The ulterior motives, however, were suspect. The anti-OFS contingent's arguments seemed to centre around the financial mismanagement of the OFS. But, on closer examination, the students' claims against the OFS were more politically directed. Angered by the OFS's progressive stances on issues like abortion, the Gulf War, student fees, and gay rights, the right-wing element used finances as a front in their attempts to assert more control within the university. At the time, when anti-OFS advocates were asked to suggest alternatives to the OFS, they responded by saying they wanted to set up a "new" organization.

The CCBC seems to be just that. It is no surprise that Queen's was one of the first universities to join the consortium. The Queen's debate over the OFS and the CFS was only a microcosm of a much larger dispute taking place on campuses all over the country between the left and the right. The same year that Queen's pulled out of the OFS, a number of other schools including Western and Wilfred Laurier followed suit. The anti-OFS/CFS action is undoubtedly part of a larger movement responding to the so-called "politically correct" takeover of Canadian campuses.

For business, socially progressive movements on campus are anti-productive and get in the way of profits. Business, therefore, needs an organization like the CCBC in order to maintain some degree of control over progressive student agendas. NAFTA only strengthens this bond as universities will rely more heavily on private funding to maintain certain courses and curriculums.

This is not to say that business and student politics can't work. Many student co-ops and collective ventures have worked out for the better. However the two, business and politics, have to stay together. Student politics has to remain in control over the business aspect, or else any financial venture becomes yet another example of corporate control over our educational environment.

The recent partnership between McGill's faculty of music and Sony Classical Corporation is at this point the most blatant example of a corporation/university partnership which sacrifices university autonomy. (Sony loaned McGill \$250 000 worth of audio equipment in exchange for an adjunct professorship for one of their employees.) The fact that this agreement went unnoticed by McGill's senate or Board of Governors until it had been in effect for a year and a half points to the very real possibility that similar agreements exist in other parts of the university without the knowledge of students or even many administrators.

In addition, corporations know the immensity of the student markets. By setting up groups like the CCBC, big business can ensure access to these markets by schmoozing student councils. This has already started, as vp External Andrew Work recognized when he said, "Molson and Labatt gave us [the delegates to the CCBC conference] their boxes at the hockey game."

In return, student councillors and students in departments which have corporate involvement at the teaching level — like the faculty of music — will schmooze the corporations they work with, for future jobs. This incestual relationship means student concerns outside of finances will either be pushed into a corner or forgotten.

Chris Sheridan, Kristin Andrews, Dave Ley



HYDE PARK

D Courses

An opinion by Steven Douglas

The Faculty of Arts often finds itself playing "catch-up" not only with respect to other universities, but with other departments within McGill.

Many departments in McGill used to have what would be the equivalent of D courses, but have long abolished them in favor of quarterly/semesterly courses. The Faculty of Sciences has very few D courses, and as far as I can judge from the course catalogue, I don't think the Faculties of Engineering and Management even have any. I think that the disadvantages override the advantages of D courses. Let me summarize my argument:

1) A student taking a D course receives only one grade for a full year's work. If a student achieves a grade of A- in the first semester of his D course and that of C+ in the second, his course grade is that of a B. I believe that if those two grades were recorded separately, they would not only be more indicative of the student's performance than had they been averaged, the first grade would have alleviated pressure on the student to be grade conscious, and might have allowed him to perform better in his second semester.

2) The cumulative tested knowledge in D courses becomes daunting by the end of the course. Materials covered in different semesters tend to be thematic anyway, so it seems reasonable to test students semesterly. Moreover, the amount of review entailed by the end of the year in D courses gives students the incentive to take A or B courses instead, an incentive which should not exist. Complaining about D courses to my friends, I was surprised to find how few student shared my problems precisely because they avoided D courses.

3) D courses are a discentive for students who want to study abroad for only a semester. Studying abroad usually results in a valuable experience and life-long memory. In order to remain competitive, an academic institution such as ours, which prides itself on its international composition and reputation, should build and foster its international projects.

4) D courses exclude the possibility of changing sections, by which a student may be able to change his schedule in the second semester and accommodate other courses he may want to take in that time slot. Other

students may want to change sections because of student-teacher conflict.

5) D language courses often exclude the possibility of starting a language in the second semester.

6) In the case that a student must withdraw from a D course — for family emergencies or personal crisis — that student would lose credit for the entire course regardless of how soon the student would have completed the course.

7) Withdrawing from a D course is more dear than withdrawing from an A or B course. An international student would forfeit at most \$2190 by withdrawing from a D course.

The proposal which I submit is to change D courses to A and B courses. A semesterly system does not preclude the possibility of obligatory full-year courses, and a stipulation that both A and B courses must be taken may be desired. It does allow students to take a course in non-consecutive semester, and does evaluate them in two separate periods. The Faculty of Arts already offers some semesterly courses whose materials are coherent over the full year. Let's make all D courses that way.

...LETTERS

Free donuts

To the Daily:

(Re: James Cook, letter of January 19)

In the town of Woodstock we have drunk to the very dregs of infamy. We have had vile officials, we have had rotten newspapers. But we have had nothing so vile, nothing so low, nothing so debased, nothing so infamous in Woodstock as James Cook. He sits there in senile dementia with gangrene heart and rotting brain, grimacing at every reform, chattering impotently at all things that are decent, frothing, fuming violently gibbering, going down to his grave in snarling infamy. This man Cook is the one blot on the banner of Canada;

he is the BAR SINISTER ON YOUR ESCUTCHEON. My friends, he is the one thing that all Americans look at when, in looking at Canada, they see anything that is disgraceful, depraved, corrupt, crooked and putrescent — that is James Cook!

(paraphrased from a speech by Gov. Hiram Johnson of California circa 1910)

Love, as always,
Michael Fleischer
U3 Engineering

P.S. Free OCCUPIED Dorval Island!

Editor's Note: Would someone from the anonymous group of women who wrote the letter to Professor Lieblein (and addressed to the Daily) dated November

29th, 1993, regarding the Interdisciplinary Seminar in North American Studies, please come to the Daily office immediately and speak to Chris Sheridan! We guarantee your anonymity will remain intact.

Erratum

In an January 19 article entitled "God spits on Weston pool..", the Daily wrongly stated that the Sony Corporation is in part responsible for funding a new addition to the Strathcona Music Building. Sony is in no way linked to this particular project with the Music department. The Daily apologizes for the error.

SINCE 1911
Vol. 83 No. 56

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THE MCGILL DAILY

Recent assassinations in El Salvador threaten peace prospects

Playing a dirty game

BY DARREN SIGESMUND

Two years after the signing of the United Nations brokered peace accords, El Salvador's transition to democracy has been thrown into turmoil through fraud and a dramatic rise in political assassinations.

The current crisis began in late October when key officials of the Salvadoran political opposition were assassinated in death squad style reminiscent of the war. With under three months before the March 20 elections — which for the first time include the guerrilla group turned political party FMLN — the timing of the murders could not have been worse.

To say the death squads have returned presupposes that they ever disappeared. But in the first half of 1993, the Non-governmental Human Rights Commission of El Salvador reported over three hundred deaths, 65% of which were attributed to individuals or groups using death squad methods.

The preoccupation with recent assassinations is twofold: almost all of the victims have been members of the political opposition, especially the leftist Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front (FMLN); and the killings come at a time when the FMLN has strengthened its second place position in public opinion polls, so that it is now trailing closely behind the governing National Republican Alliance party (ARENA).

Between October 25th and December 29th, eight FMLN members were assassinated — two of whom were running for political office. Many others were gravely wounded and still others received death threats.

The first victim was Francisco Velis, a member of the FMLN's political commission and candidate for congress. He was dropping off his two year old daughter at daycare when an unidentified man shot him in the head at close range. The two National Police standing fifty feet away made no attempt to pursue the assassin fleeing before them. They said they "heard nothing". Days later, the coroner's report concluded that the Velis was under the influence of drugs when killed.

The coroner's report is an example of strategic manipulation by the rightist ARENA government under President Alfredo Cristiani to justify its denial of politically motivated killings. However according to Gustavo Pineda, a lawyer in the Law Department of the Non-Governmental Human Rights Commission of El Salvador (CDHES), "there are some suspicious elements [in recent murders] that can't be attributed to common delinquency".

In the Velis case for example, a UN military official commented that the bullet was the same type used by right wing death squads and paramilitary groups during the war. He described it as being shaved off at the tip and engraved with a cross so as to expand upon entering the body.

Other suspicious events, Pineda says, include the assassination of a witness who was to reveal to a judge the following day who killed the FMLN's Oscar Grimaldi in August. Mario Lopez, a member of the FMLN's Political Commission and another candidate in the upcoming elections was also killed after assisting a woman who was being mugged by three assailants.

The FMLN said Lopez was set up. Despite this and other evidence, President Cristiani stalled for a month and a half before agreeing to set up an investigation commission into the killings.

Who's responsible?

Recently declassified CIA and US state department documents linked ARENA to death squad activity in the 1980's. Party founder Roberto D'Aubuisson, who died in 1992, was considered to be the mastermind of the ultra-right death squads.

ARENA's presidential candidate in the upcoming elections, Calderon Sol is also believed to be indirectly linked to the death squads. Thus, with a history of ties to the death squad, it is not surprising that ARENA has denied political motives in these murders or that Cristiani delayed the formation of an investigation commission until pressured from the United States and the UN.

Formed the day before the Lopez murder, the commission, or "Joint Group", consists of the UN's human rights official, the Salvadoran human rights ombudspeople and two government officials. Although the group's formation is an encouraging development, the group's only mandate is to investigate human rights abuses since the signing of the peace accords. As a result, this leaves out the possibility of linking the intellectual and financial authors of recent crimes to those prior to the accords. Francisco Valencia, editor of the left of centre *Diario Latino*, sees a problem with the group's mandate.

"There is an error in the method of investigation because I believe that these [current] groups may have a connection to groups of the past," said Valencia. "And to me the roots of this problem are in the past."

But President Cristiani insists that "what occurred [during the war] is of the past for us and brings nothing positive, it's a waste of time since it will only lend itself to more confrontation."

Limiting the Joint Group's mandate is but one in a series of maneuvers, part of ARENA's uncompliance with the spirit of the UN brokered peace accords signed on January

"I'm from the government..."



"I'm here to help you."

16th, 1992. These accords laid out a series of structural reforms which would begin the transition to democracy. While success in the peace process depends mainly on government political will to honour its commitments, ARENA has delayed the implementation of the accords thereby contributing to the present crisis.

Violating the spirit of the accord, Cristiani declared an amnesty on March 14, 1993 that guaranteed impunity to perpetrators of war crimes, including death squad financiers and leaders.

In direct violation of the accords, the new National Civilian Police (PNC) has yet to be deployed in six of the fourteen departments (the Canadian equivalent of province). As well, the repressive National Police, scheduled to disappear under the accords, has increased in size and still controls the electorally key department of San Salvador. Finally, over 3,000 soldiers were re deployed to combat "delinquency," but the arrest of two soldiers for killing six youth in mid-December is only one example of how the army continues to terrorize the population.

Voters intentionally excluded

Ultimately, the government's use of scare tactics and fraud contributes to a state of fear that aims to deter the FMLN supporters from participating in the next elections. Approximately 786,000 people representing 30% of Salvadorans of voting age are not on the electoral register and lack voting cards. After the voting card application process closed, the Supreme Electoral Tribunal (TSE) announced it had registered all 786,000 who must now wait to receive their cards.

But FMLN spokesman Gerson Martinez said "the TSE has inflated the figures as they in fact only registered 60% [or some 586,000]". When the tribunal counted all applications, it included as new voters those that were already part of the register and had their voting cards but registered again to change or

replace old ones, said Norma Gueverra of the FMLN's Political Commission. "The 60% represent a very important amount because even though it is not all of the 786,000, it is still a significant increase in the register," said Gueverra.

But she cautions that "if the TSE does not distribute cards to these people, they will feel violated because the Electoral Code says they have the right to receive their voting cards within thirty days after applying."

The TSE's past performance may be cause for skepticism as the US threatened to withhold \$70 million in economic aid in August based on the poor registration drive.

Why the exclusion? Largely because the TSE is politicized. Pablo Morales, head of public relations for CAPAZ (Walk to Peace), a non-governmental organization monitoring the electoral process said that during the peace negotiations, the government has ensured that the TSE will oversee the electoral process through an executive committee of party representatives. Creating a politically independent electoral tribunal was "non-negotiable item". As a result, the committee is dominated by ARENA and members of other right-wing parties who have little interest in registering the 786,000 who reside mostly in formerly battle zones and are most likely FMLN supporters.

Wilfredo Marmol, of the non-governmental Permanent Commission for National Debate, a forum for national citizen participation stressed the importance of the upcoming elections.

"The elections should be an opportunity for Salvadorans to perpetuate and consolidate the path to peace," said Marmol.

But how free can the elections be if the present state of political intimidation and corruption persists? International pressure forcing the Salvadoran government to comply with the peace accords may well be the last resort to ensure the free and fair elections that Salvadoran people deserve.

Community Groups Briefs

The Montréal-based environmental group known as STOP released its list of priority issues for the upcoming year.

•The group is busy pressuring Québec Environment Minister PierreParadis to start generic, province-wide public hearings on the environment.

•STOP will be holding a public meeting to counter a request by refinery operators in east Montreal to increase the sulfur content of their fuel by 50%, despite medical reports which suggest this would be extremely dangerous for those with respiratory illnesses.

•The group wants to pressure Westmount city council to effectively enforce new anti-smoking laws banning smoking from most public spaces like restaurants and stores.

•STOP's preparations are underway for the city of Montréal's public hearings (January 25th) on the municipal government's own "track record" on waste and materials resource management.

•New proposals for potential waste disposal sites on the West Island are expected this week. The intermunicipal ministry on waste disposal, consisting of 26 West Island suburban mayors, has been working with the industrial real-estate arm of Devconore.

•STOP has called on the municipal government to set a 3% target for waste reduction within Montréal for 1994. They call on the Québec government to set up a Waste Avoidance Agency to make sure this percentage is maintained.

•For more information on STOP's activities call 931-0197 or 932-7267.

Use PERUSE

McGill libraries will have a new, on-line periodical index by February 1. The new system, called PERUSE will eventually replace the CD-ROM periodical listings currently used.

The move to PERUSE will make McGill libraries "part of the wave of the future," says John Hobbins, Associate Director of Libraries.

The PERUSE network differs from CD-ROM in that many terminals (currently 40) can access the network simultaneously. While terminals outside the library can access the network with a modem, access is currently limited to McGill students and staff.

Eventually, PERUSE will be used throughout McGill libraries, Hobbins said. Currently, six terminals have been set up in the McLennan Library, and four in Health Sciences, Physical Sciences and Law libraries.

Use of PERUSE is free for McGill students. Citations can be printed for a cost.

Pamphlets will be available explaining how to use PERUSE and librarians are presently being trained in its usage as well.

— Anna Martinez

Engineering Blood Drive Off Without Incident

BY TAYA TALUKDAR

The Engineering Undergraduate Society (EUS) Blood Drive went off without incident this week, despite continued opposition to Red Cross screening policies.

Last semester, the Students' Society of McGill voted to cease sponsoring blood drives on campus until the Red Cross changes its policy of excluding gay and bisexual men from giving blood.

Melissa Keigher, political co-coordinator for Lesbians, Bisexuals, and Gays of McGill (LBGM), said LBGM's agreement with Students' Society's policy led its decision not to boycott this week's blood drive. LBGM is instead concentrating on planning for the upcoming AIDS Awareness Week.

According to Keigher, the Red Cross screening questionnaire remains not only discriminatory but also "HIV irresponsible." It discriminates against groups rather than practices, she said.

"If they [the Red Cross] are concerned about getting healthy blood and being discriminatory, why aren't they concerned about heterosexuals who have practiced risky behaviour?"

Annick Girard, one of the coordinators of the EUS Blood Drive, said the EUS recognized there is a problem with the questionnaire, but believed giving blood was more crucial.

Girard said the blood drive has had a lower turnout this year. She said fewer students gave blood because of bad weather and the common cold, not out of protest.

Tout ça pour... ça?

THOMAS LAVIER

Nous ment-on à propos des études de cycle supérieur? D'après Statistiques Canada, compléter un diplôme de second ou troisième cycle permet de réduire de 4 p.c. le taux de chômage qui sévit chez la population universitaire graduée. C'est peu pour trois années (au moins) d'études, dont le coût est évalué à 13 000 \$ chacune, sans compter l'absence de salaire pendant cette période.

Faut-il se résigner au froid pragmatisme du calcul d'apothicaire? Lorsque poursuivre les études signifie s'endetter (jusqu'à 30 000 \$), et que le gouvernement et

le patronat n'affichent devant cette situation qu'un apparent désintérêt, une question s'impose : peut-on se permettre ce luxe qu'est devenu le savoir supérieur?

Faire des études supérieures est-il devenu à ce point un privilège au Québec? Le gouvernement ne doit-il pas pourtant offrir les mêmes opportunités à chacun et chacune?

Le McGill Daily français, conscient de son mandat auprès de la population étudiante, analyse de manière exhaustive cette question dans le premier volet de son nouveau dossier Avenirs dans Après l'université, le désert? à paraître mardi 25 janvier.

Photo Meeting



Wednesday at 5h00 pm
Welcome to anyone who
wishes to discover the
place where neither gopher
nor other rodent wander:
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Come by or call the Daily (398-6784) — talk to Liz or Kristin Andrews



Ads may be placed through the Daily Business Office, Room B-17, University Centre, 9h00-14h00. Deadline is 14h00, two working days prior to publication.

McGill Students (with valid ID): \$3.50 per day, 4 or more consecutive days, \$2.75 per day (\$11.00 per week). McGill Employees (with staff card) \$4.50 per day, 4 or more consecutive days, \$3.75 per day (\$15.00 per week). All others: \$5.00 per day, or \$4.25 per day for 4 or more consecutive days (\$17.00 per week). Extra charges may apply, and prices do not include applicable GST or PST. For more information, please visit our office in person or call 398-6790 - **WE CANNOT TAKE CLASSIFIED ADS OVER THE PHONE.**

PLEASE CHECK YOUR AD CAREFULLY WHEN IT APPEARS IN THE PAPER. The Daily assumes no financial responsibility for errors, or damage due to errors. Ad will re-appear free of charge upon request if information is incorrect due to our error. The Daily reserves the right not to print any classified ad.

1 - HOUSING

Sublet 1 1/2 for Feb 1. Large bright heated on Durocher \$350 844-2776.

2-4 1/2 Now. Verdun; Laurier Metro. Spacious, comfortable, new paint. 300 mo. Info Carlos 6405926 11:00-1:00 day or after 4:00 pm.

Old-Montreal loft for sale, 725 sq. ft., 13 ft. ceilings, beams, fireplace, cozy, historical building, well located. Call owner: Denis, 421-8361 or 287-7348.

Tired of trekking to school in -30 weather? 3 1/2, for rent on Milton (Aylmer) - 2 min to school 2 levels. hwd. flrs. lots of storage. freshly painted. bright living room Elec & heat not incl. \$485 mth available immediately 282-7764

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3 - HELP WANTED

SUMMER JOBS: Pripstein's Camp (Laurentians) hiring instructors: Kayaking, Waterskiing (OWSA certified), Pottery, Beadmaking/Jewellery, Gymnastics, Swim (RC/RLSS inst. & Nationals), Canoeing, Judo (black belt), Drama (musicals), Photography, Keyboardist. Send resume 5253 Decarie #333, Montreal H3W 3C3.

Business Opportunity. Distributor needed for natural medicinal herbs and energizing dietary products. Francis 738-3102.

5 - TYPING SERVICES

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Estetica offers student haircuts for men & women, supervised by Jean Charles. Tues./Wed., 5 p.m. Cuts \$10. Colour, perms, highlights \$15. **Estetica** 2175 Crescent. Appointments **849-9231**.

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7 - ARTICLES FOR SALE

For Sale: Computer IBM Turbo XT, Data Train monitor V232G, IBM extended keyboard - \$500. 3-seater sofa, great shape, \$50. 932-7046.

Sony Stereo Sys., 2 cass drv., 1 CD drv., AM/FM radio, remote ctl, digital tune, warranty \$380. 844-3617 after 10pm.

Wedding Dress. Ivory-white. All silk. Long sleeves Off-shoulder Little pearls on sleeves Short train that hooks up Size 9-10 Excellent condition 332-1731

10 - RIDES/TICKETS

Spring Break Special! 6 nights in Daytona at H.Johnsons on the beach! Hotel only=\$119. Bus & Hotel=\$259! For more info call Ken-487-6585 or Heidi-288-4974.

11 - LOST & FOUND

KEYS FOUND-3 w/ yellow whistle on Doctor Penfield on Tuesday, Jan 18th. Go to SSMU Desk!!

13 - LESSONS/COURSES

SIENA SUMMER MUSIC INSTITUTE (Florence) Culture, language, travel, concerts, Credit/non-credit. Rome, Venice, 3 days in Switzerland. Students, Grads, Professionals; July 16 to August 18, Cost \$1585. Special low cost charter flight; Write/call: SESSIONE SENESE PER LA MUSICA/ARTE. Director, 595 Prospect Road, Waterbury, CT 06706. 203-754-5741.

Law School. To learn about Canada's only complete pre-law educational program call 1-800-567-7737.

Thesis Support Group for Master/PhD students; discussion of solutions for completion - Starts Jan. 24-3:30 Call 398-3601.

Come and practice your French with francophones. Club Half and Half. Tel 465-9128.

14 - NOTICES

McGill SCM is engaged in a membership drive through January. Christians united for social justice. Leave name with McGill Chaplaincy or inquiries 398-4104.

Call for undergraduate history papers. Submit a photocopy with name & ph.# to Lea 625! This is your chance to be published! Deadline Feb. 7!

LBGM Weekly discussion groups: Wed. Bi-group 5:30, 5th flr. Eaton Bldg. Fri. Coming Out 5:30, General 7:00, both at UTC, 3521 University. All welcome.

Questioning your sexuality? Or do you have any other concerns and need to talk? Call the LBGM Peer Counselling Line at 398-6822 Mon. to Fri. 7 to 10 pm.



Welcome Back! Why not come walk with us? Walksafe is here for you., 7 nights a week, Sun-Thurs 5:00PM to 12:30AM, Fri&Sat 5:00PM to 2:30AM. 398-2498.

15 - VOLUNTEERS

The McConnell Brain Imaging Centre is looking for healthy male or female volunteers (paid) 18+ to participate in brain research. Call 398-8932.

16 - MUSICIANS

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McGill exchanges with Spanish-speaking universities

- Universidad de Salamanca (Spain)
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- Universidad de las Américas, Puebla (México)

These exchanges are open to all members of the McGill Community and are not intended for the study of language.

INFORMATION SESSION

Wednesday 26 January 1994

1:30 pm

Department of Hispanic Studies
BRONFMAN ROOM 104

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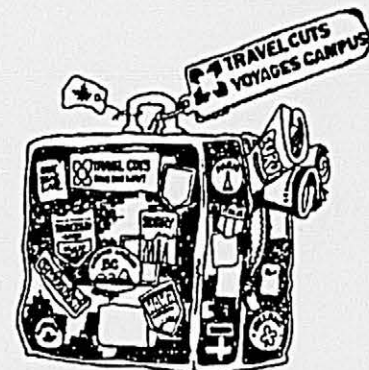
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Special Shelter Brings Hope to Homeless Youth

BY ROBIN PERELLE

On December 19, 1993 a unique shelter opened its doors to Montréal's homeless youths.

Run by a local organization called Le Bon Dieu Dans La Rue, the shelter, situated on St. Hubert, provides 20 warm beds, hot showers, counselling services and a good breakfast for adolescents aged eighteen years and under.

"Kids today feel like society doesn't understand them," said Robert Longtin a volunteer at the main office. "But we're here to listen and to help them try to solve their problems."

Normally, minors that run away from home can only be sheltered for 24 hours before being turned over to social workers from the Department of Youth Protection. But in this case, Dans la Rue persuaded the government to make an exception.

"24 hours just isn't enough," Longtin explained. "We need time to earn the kids' trust."

Teenagers living on the streets

are now allowed to spend up to ten nights in the shelter before their case is turned over to the regular authorities.

Organizers hope that the extra time will allow them to work with the youths, and even make it possible for them to return home or live independently.

According to Longtin, the shelter has already begun to make a difference. "The kids begin to relax and even smile a bit after spending a few nights here," he said. "You just can't let them stay on the streets, they can't live alone out there."

Le Bon Dieu Dans la Rue is the brainchild of Father Emmett Johns. Five years ago, he developed a mo-



Breakfast at Le Bunker, Dans la Rue's shelter for kids

bile care service, circling the downtown area in a 28-foot Winnebago from which he distributed such basic necessities as food, clothes and comforting words to the homeless

youths of Montréal. Last year the van's outreach workers received more than 29 000 visitors.

As Longtin said, "The kids in the street don't want to listen to ser-

mons, and they don't want to be judged. They just want to sit down and eat a hotdog or have a smoke with us."

There are an estimated 5000 juvenile runaways presently on the streets of Montréal, many of whom are forced to live in abandoned houses and resort to drugs, violence and prostitution to survive.

Now, thanks to Le Bon Dieu Dans la Rue, our city's street kids can find support in both the organization's new housing facilities and its van, which can still be spotted on its usual route between 21h and 4h.

As word of the shelter continues to spread, more and more youths are expected to take advantage of the temporary refuge it offers from the harsh reality of a Montréal winter.

If you would like to volunteer for Le Bon Dieu Dans La Rue, or make a donation, give them a call at 938-0888.

SENATE BRIEFS

Sony scandal hits Senate; Harassment up at McGill; University joins elite group

BY DAMION STODOLA

Senate, the university's main decision making body, met last Wednesday to get down to McGill's business. Senate is primarily composed of professors and administrators, though a weak student voice is represented by 11 seats out of 85. Only 3 of the student senators spoke up at last week's meeting. Mark Luz, president of our Students' Society, remained silent.

Voting rights of private corporations

A resolution that prevents "any profit-making corporation from voting on academic decision-making bodies" was passed, but in a very watered-down form.

The Academic Policy and Planning Committee brought the motion to Senate after they discovered that McGill had traded a seat on the Music Faculty curriculum committee to Sony Classical Corporation in exchange for high-priced audio equipment two years ago. The university's deal with Sony was never approved by Senate.

In the motion's original form, Vice-Principal Academic William Leggett had included a "disclaimer" clause stating that "qualified individuals who are also members of private or public corporations may be appointed to academic positions."

Professor Sam Noumoff and Graduate Student Senator Eugenio Bolongaro, concerned about the

conflicts of interest that may arise, suggested the words "provided that their interests be publicly disclosed" be added to the motion.

The amendment received staunch opposition. Senator Roger Buckland claimed that requiring academics to disclose their interests is "a slap in the face." Dean of Medicine, Richard Creuss, didn't "want people who give so much to McGill to have to testify [disclose their interests] each year to Senate."

Noumoff's amendment was killed and the disclaimer sentence was struck.

Mark Luz said nothing.

See "Sony" on page 1 for details on the corporate sell-out.

Increase in sexual harassment at McGill

There was a 16.7 per cent increase in reports of sexual harassment at McGill in 1993 over the previous year, according to the Sexual Harassment Assessors' report to Senate.

In all, 35 cases were brought before the Assessors but only 12 of those complaints were registered formally. The accused is only notified of complaints which are formally registered.

Since the Committee's inception in 1986 there have been 114 informal reports (which do not lead to disciplinary action) and 36 formal reports (those that actually get investigated).

The Assessors made not mention nor did anyone ask if they were going to examine the power relationship that works against complainants and leads to so many informal cases.

The Committee also holds seminars in various departments but budgetary restraints are preventing them from expanding their resources. The administration said that "any reasonable request for funds will be addressed."

Mark Luz said nothing.

Collective élitisme

Senate approved a resolution making transfers between ten universities easier. The group, called the Group of Ten, comprises of the ten largest universities in Canada.

The Group has set up an independent network among their admissions departments to allow students from each institution to study abroad and transfer credits more easily between them.

No Maritime universities are represented because no university there is deemed to be a great undergraduate research centre, according to vice-principal academic Leggett.

Mark Luz said nothing.

Other news

• An Honours program in Latin American and Caribbean Studies was approved.

• A \$1.5 million chair in Women's Studies and two \$500 000 fellowships were added to the priority list of the 21st Century Fundraising Campaign.

• The Dean of Admissions will be no more for 1994-95. The position was abolished following a recommendation from the current Dean of Admissions and vp academic Leggett.



"We walk to denounce the wall of shame and social exclusion that is built against all the poor people on the continent!" announced the organizers of a manifestation last Thursday, protesting governmental cuts to welfare and social programs. Similar protests occurred in cities all over North America. See the *Daily Français* tomorrow for the story.